

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

1616  
JFW

Applicant: SMITH ET AL. Examiner: S. MARK CLARDY  
Serial No.: 09/744,129 Group Art Unit: 1616  
Filed: JUNE 21, 2001 Docket: 00270.0074USWO  
Confirmation No.: 3012  
Due Date: FEBRUARY 15, 2005  
Title: COMPOSITION FOR ACCELERATING SEED GERMINATION AND PLANT GROWTH

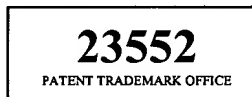
**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on February 15, 2005.

By: 

Name: Gregory A. Sebald

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450



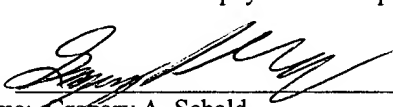
Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Amendment; no additional claims fees due.
- ☒ Article from Science magazine
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Merchant & Gould P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612.332.5300

By:   
Name: Gregory A. Sebald  
Reg. No.: 33,280  
GAS:sl

S/N 09/744,129

PATENT

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By: 

Name: Gregory A. Sobala

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 15, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.